

PRESS RELEASE

August 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BANA Sponsors Open Forum and Holds Fall Meeting

The Braille Authority of North America (BANA) will hold its fall meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from September 25-27, 2009. This meeting is being hosted by the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB), a BANA member organization.

A centerpiece of the two and a half day meeting will be the Open Forum, which BANA holds during each of its semiannual meetings.

Saturday, September 26, 2009, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
BANA Open Forum -- Tell it to BANA!

Location:
5th Floor Colloquium Room
W.W. Posvar Hall (School of Education Building)
230 South Bouquet Street
University of Pittsburgh

Judith Dixon, BANA Chair, and the other members of the Braille Authority of North America are extending an invitation to this forum because we want to hear from braille readers (of all ages) and from educators, transcribers, proofreaders, and parents regarding their thoughts about braille. There will be plenty of opportunity for participants to learn more about how BANA functions and about current BANA projects. Don't miss this opportunity to ask questions and voice your opinions on braille by attending this Open Forum. To reserve your spot at the Forum and to help ensure accurate counts for handouts, contact Frances Mary D'Andrea at 412-521-5797 or e-mail fmd22@pitt.edu no later than Monday, September 14.

The three-day fall board meeting of the Braille Authority of North America will be held at the University of Pittsburgh, in Posvar Hall in the 5th Floor Colloquium Room. The BANA meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, September 25, and ends at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 27th.

Guests are welcome to attend any portion of the BANA meeting and observe the deliberations. Space is limited, so to reserve a seat, please contact BANA Chair Judith Dixon to register your desire to observe any or all of the BANA proceedings.

The mission and purpose of the Braille Authority of North America are to assure literacy for tactile readers through the standardization of braille and/or tactile graphics. BANA promotes and facilitates the use, teaching and production of braille. It publishes rules, interprets and renders opinions pertaining to braille in all existing codes. It deals with codes now in existence or to be developed in the future, in collaboration with other countries using English braille. In exercising its function and authority, BANA considers the effects of its decisions on other existing braille codes and formats; the ease of production by various methods; and acceptability to readers.

For additional resource information, visit www.brailleauthority.org.